COMPLETE LIST OF CLAIMS

The following is a complete list of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for enhancing communication within a community, the method comprising:

(a) establishing a hierarchical structure for organizing communications between a plurality of users within the community;

(b) distributing control through selection of inherited parameters of said hierarchical structure to at least one of said plurality of users, wherein said inherited parameters comprise parameters defining access by said plurality of users to said communications organized within said hierarchical structure;

(c) storing in said hierarchical structure at least a portion of said communications received from said plurality of users from at least one of a plurality of input devices in relation to at least one of a plurality of topics that is user selected;

(z) providing a link to a resource associated with said at least a portion of said communications that is stored, wherein said link is available for access by authorized users of said plurality of users;

(d) prioritizing said at least a portion of said communications within said hierarchical structure;

(e) presenting to at least a one of said plurality of users through said at least one of a plurality of input devices a selected portion of said communications stored in said hierarchical structure, wherein said selected portion of said communications are related under said at least one of a plurality of topics that is user selected ~~a topic~~; and

(f) enabling dynamic interaction through further contributions of communications by said at least a one of said

plurality of users through said at least one of a plurality of input devices in response to presentation of said selected portion of said communications within said hierarchical structure, wherein said further contributions of communications are stored and accessed within said hierarchical structure in relation to said topic, wherein said further contributions are associated with at least one discussion thread comprising a recorded communication under said at least one of a plurality of topics that is conducted between participating users of said plurality of users.

2. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 1 wherein said establishing a hierarchical structure further comprises:

creating a top-level hierarchy having at least one top-level subject;

creating at least one mid-level hierarchy, each of said at least one mid-level hierarchy having at least one mid-level subject related to at least one of said at least one top-level subject; and

creating a low-level hierarchy having at least one low-level subject related to at least one of said at least one mid-level subject, wherein each of said stored communications becomes an item indexed to at least one of said at least one low-level subject.

3. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 2 wherein said distributing control through inherited parameters of said hierarchical structure further comprises:

assigning at least one top-level leader for each of said at least one top-level subject;

assigning at least one mid-level leader for each of said at least one mid-level subject; and

assigning at least one low-level leader for each of said at least one low-level subject.

4. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 3 wherein said distributing control through inherited parameters of said hierarchical structure further comprises:

assigning at least one of said inherited parameters to each of said at least one top-level subject, wherein said at least one of said inherited parameters controls input or access to a database function by said at least one top-level leader associated with said at least one top-level subject;

assigning at least one of said inherited parameters to each of said at least one mid-level subject, wherein said at least one of said inherited parameters controls input or access to a database function by said at least one mid-level leader associated with said at least one mid-level subject; and

assigning at least one of said inherited parameters to each of said at least one low-level subject, wherein said at least one of said inherited parameters controls input or access to a database function by said at least one low-level leader associated with said at least one low-level subject.

5. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 4:

wherein said at least one of said inherited parameters assigned to each of said at least one low-level subject is inherited from said at least one mid-level subject related to said at least one low-level subject, and

further wherein said at least one of said inherited parameters assigned to each of said at least one mid-level subject is inherited from said at least one top-level subject related to said at least one mid-level subject, and

further wherein said at least one of said inherited

parameters assigned to each of said at least one top-level subject is inherited from a web master.

6. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 5:

wherein said at least one parameter inherited by each of said at least one low-level subject is the same as, or narrower in scope, than said at least one parameter assigned to each of said at least one mid-level subject related to said at least one low-level subject, and

further wherein said at least one parameter inherited by each of said at least one mid-level subject is the same as, or narrower in scope, than said at least one parameter assigned to each of said at least one top-level subject related to said at least one mid-level subject.

7. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 6:

wherein said at least one of said inherited parameters assigned to each of said at least one top-level subject is inherited from a web master, and

further wherein said at least one parameter inherited by each of said at least one top-level subject is the same as, or narrower in scope, than said at least one parameter assigned to each of said at least one top-level subject by said web master.

8. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 7:

wherein each of said inherited parameters comprises a one of a privacy parameter, screening parameter, input parameter, user ID parameter, and an approval parameter.

9. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 8:

wherein each of said inherited parameters has at least one access level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least one access level provides more management control than a lower one of each of said at least one access level.

10. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 7 wherein said distributing control through inherited parameters of said hierarchical structure further comprises:

allowing said at least one top-level leader associated with said at least one top-level subject, said at least one mid-level leader associated with said at least one mid-level subject, and said at least one low-level leader associated with said at least one mid-level subject, to change respectively said at least one access level of said inherited parameters at any time.

11. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 1 wherein said distributing control through inherited parameters of said hierarchical structure further comprises:

assigning an access status to each of said plurality of users,

wherein said access status comprises a one of an inclusive access and an exclusive access, and

further wherein said inclusive access allows access to each of said stored communications in said hierarchical structure except where excluded by said inherited parameters, and

further wherein said exclusive access allows access to each of said stored communications in said hierarchical structure only where explicitly assigned.

12. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 1 wherein said

establishing a hierarchical structure for organizing communications further comprises:

utilizing a database for establishing said hierarchical structure,

wherein said at least a portion of said communications are stored in said hierarchical structure in said database.

13. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 12 further comprising:

recording and storing a communication from a user in said database when said user is not accessing said database at the time said communication is initiated.

14. (Previously Presented) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 1 wherein said enabling dynamic interaction further comprises:

stratifying said selected portion of said communications into at least one item type.

15. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 14 wherein said at least one item type is a one of an idea, question, event, review, survey, newsletter, and action item.

16. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 1 wherein said presenting a selected portion of said communications further comprises:

filtering said at least a portion of said communications yielding a filtered portion of communications;

consolidating said filtered portion of communications yielding a consolidated portion of communications;

sorting said consolidated portion of communications yielding a sorted portion of communications; and

presenting said sorted portion of communications

according to a predetermined level of content review.

17. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 1 wherein said storing in said hierarchical structure further comprises:

attaching a resource to at least one of said at least a portion of said communications,

wherein said resource is a one of an internal database link, a document/file attachment, and an external Internet link.

18. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 1 wherein said enabling dynamic interaction further comprises:

alerting said at least one of said plurality of users to an activity within the community,

wherein said activity is a one of a topic within said hierarchical structure, an item type within said hierarchical structure, a response from an individual user within the community, a response from any one of a member of a group of users within the community, a new posting from an individual user within the community, and a new posting from any one of a member of a group of users within the community.

19. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 1 wherein said enabling dynamic interaction further comprises:

alerting said at least one of said plurality of users to a message within the community,

wherein said message is sent to at least a one of a home page of said at least one of said plurality of users, to an e-mail account of said at least one of said plurality of users, to a voice mail box of said at least one of said plurality of users, and to some other type of communications device of said

at least one of said plurality of users.

20. (Original) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 1 wherein said enabling dynamic interaction further comprises:

alerting a select group of others within the community to an activity or a message of said at least one of said plurality of users,

wherein said activity is a one of a topic within said hierarchical structure, an item type within said hierarchical structure, a response from said at least one of said plurality of users, a new posting from said at least one of said plurality of users, and

further wherein said message is sent to at least a one of a home page of said select group of others within the community, to an e-mail account of said select group of others within the community, to a voice mail box of said select group of others within the community, and to some other type of communications device of said select group of others within the community.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community, the computer system comprising:

an application platform running an application that organizes a plurality of communications, said application further comprising:

a database for storing said plurality of communications;

an inherited parameters responsibility module for establishing a hierarchical structure for said plurality of communications and for distributing control of said hierarchical structure to a plurality of users within the community, through selection of inherited parameters comprising parameters defining access by said plurality of users to said plurality of communications organized within

said hierarchical structure;

an input module for capturing said plurality of communications within said hierarchical structure sent by said plurality of users from a plurality of communication devices and storing at least a portion of said plurality of communications in relation to at least one of a plurality of topics that is user selected, wherein said plurality of communications comprises at least one link to a resource associated with said at least a portion of said plurality of communications that is stored, wherein said link is available for access by authorized users;

a thread synchronization module for synchronizing said plurality of communications within said hierarchical structure;

a reviewing module for presenting said synchronized plurality of communications in said hierarchical structure to said plurality of users for dynamic interaction enabled through further contributions of communications by said plurality of users, wherein said further contributions of communications are stored and accessed within said hierarchical structure in relation to said at least one of a plurality of topics that is user selected, wherein said further contributions are associated with at least one discussion thread comprising recorded communication under said at least one of a plurality of topics that is conducted between participating users of said plurality of users; and

an output module for outputting a plurality of responses to said plurality of communications from said plurality of users to said plurality of communication devices.

22. (Original) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein said application platform is a one of a centralized application platform architecture and a distributed application platform architecture,

wherein said distributed application platform architecture has a plurality of databases for storing distributively said plurality of communications.

23. (Original) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 22 further comprising:

for said distributed application platform architecture, an inherited parameters synchronization module for determining a one of a plurality of application platforms of said distributed application platform that contains a portion of said plurality of communications sought by a one of said plurality of users, and for routing said one of said plurality of users to said one of a plurality of application platforms; and

a content synchronization module for exchanging and synchronizing content between said plurality of databases.

24. (Original) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein said application further comprises:

a content access interface for determining a current hierarchical structure of said database accessible by said plurality of users;

an authorization module for authorizing each of said plurality of users to access a portion of said plurality of communications stored in said database to which each of said plurality of users have access rights and in conjunction with said inherited parameters responsibility module;

an interaction control module for determining a dynamic interaction capability for said plurality of users with said plurality of communications stored in said database to which said plurality of users have access rights in conjunction with said inherited parameters responsibility module; and

a content prioritizing interface for sorting and prioritizing the order said plurality of communications are presented to each of said plurality of users for review.

25. (Original) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 21 further comprising:

a recording module accessible by said plurality of communication devices,

wherein said recording module, after a user input is received in a one of said plurality of communication devices on a record option, queries said database causing said database to deliver to said one of said plurality of communication devices said hierarchical structure of said plurality of communications, and

further wherein said recording module receives a user selection input of a topic within said hierarchical structure with which to associate a communication from said one of said plurality of communication devices, and

further wherein said recording module records and stores in said database said communication sent from said one of said plurality of communication devices.

26. (Original) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 25 wherein said recording module resides on said one of said plurality of communication devices.

27. (Original) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 25 wherein said recording module resides on said application and is accessed over a communication channel by a user input on said record option selected from a tool bar displayed on said one of said plurality of communication devices.

28. (Original) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein said inherited parameters responsibility module further comprises:

a hierarchy initiation module for creating a plurality of headings in a top-level hierarchy and for assigning at least one heading leader for each of said plurality of headings, and

for creating a plurality of categories in a mid-level hierarchy and for assigning at least one category leader for each of said plurality of categories, and

for creating a plurality of topics in a low-level hierarchy and for assigning at least one topic leader for each of said plurality of topics,

wherein each of said stored plurality of communications becomes an item indexed to at least one of said plurality of topics.

29. (Original) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein said input module further comprises:

a resource attachment module for attaching a resource to at least a one of said plurality of communications,

wherein said resource is a one of an internal database link, a document/file attachment, and an external Internet link.

30. (Original) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein said thread synchronization module further comprises:

an initial priority-based content placement module for determining a priority assignment for an initial communication so that when reviewed by a one of said plurality of users accessing said application, said initial communication is reviewed in proper relationship to a portion of said plurality of communications related to said initial communication; and

a response priority–based content placement module for determining a priority assignment for a response communication so that when reviewed by a one of said plurality of users accessing said application, said response communication is reviewed in proper relationship to a portion of said plurality of communications related to said response communication.

31. (Original) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein said reviewing module further comprises:

a filter module for setting at least one filter parameter,

wherein said at least one filter parameter is at least a one of a filter out parameter that filters out a first portion of said synchronized plurality of communications and a filter in parameter that filters in a second portion of said synchronized plurality of communications for review by a user; and

a consolidation reviewing interface for setting a level of content review,

wherein said set level of content review is a one of a full review, a summary only review, a title only review, and an all responses review.

32. (Original) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein said reviewing module further comprises:

a customized interactive reviewing module for creating a digital binder,

wherein said customized interactive reviewing module allows each of said plurality of users to aggregate in said digital binder a specific portion of said plurality of communications most useful to each of said plurality of users.

33. (Original) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 32 wherein said input module and said thread synchronization module update said digital binder in real time with new content received in said application related to said specific portion of said plurality of communications aggregated in said digital binder.

34. (Original) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein said application further comprises:

an alerts module for setting automatic alerts,

wherein a select group of said plurality of users can be automatically alerted to at least one activity or at least one message, wherein said at least one activity is a one of a topic within said hierarchical structure, an item type within said hierarchical structure, a response from an individual user within the community, a response from any one of a member of a group of users within the community, a new posting from an individual user within the community, and a new posting from any one of a member of a group of users within the community,

and further wherein said at least one message is sent to at least a one of a home page of said select group of said plurality of users, to an e-mail account of said select group of said plurality of users, to a voice mail box of said select group of said plurality of users, and to some other type of communications device of said select group of said plurality of users.

35. (Currently Amended) A method for enhancing communication within a community, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving in an application in an application platform a communication sent by a user from a first

communication device, wherein said communication is associated with a user selected topic of a plurality of topics such that said user selected topic is selected by said user, and receiving a link to a resource associated with said communication;

(b) determining an access right said user has to information stored in a database of said application in said application platform;

(c) accessing a current database hierarchy, authorization parameters, and interaction control parameters for said application;

(d) granting access to said user, according to said access right of said user, to a portion of said information stored in said database, wherein said portion of said information is stored in association with said user selected topic;

(e) determining a dynamic interaction capability for said user with said portion of said information based on said database hierarchy, said authorization parameters, and said interaction control parameters;

(f) prioritizing an order of said portion of said information;

(g) presenting said ~~ordered said~~ portion of said information that is ordered to said user for review;

(h) accepting an initial input from said user according to said dynamic interaction capability from said first communication device for storage in said database, wherein said initial input comprises said communication and said link; and

(i) outputting said initial input from said user to at least a second communication device.

36. (Original) A method according to claim 35 wherein said access right is based upon an access status, wherein said access status comprises a one of an inclusive access and an

exclusive access, and

further wherein said inclusive access allows access to said information stored in said database except where excluded by said authorization parameters and said interaction control parameters, and

further wherein said exclusive access allows access to said information stored in said database only where explicitly assigned.

37. (Original) A method according to claim 35 wherein said current database hierarchy comprises:

a top-level hierarchy having at least one top-level subject;

at least one mid-level hierarchy, each of said at least one mid-level hierarchy having at least one mid-level subject related to at least one of said at least one top-level subject; and

a low-level hierarchy having at least one low-level subject related to at least one of said at least one mid-level subject,

wherein said initial input becomes an item indexed to at least one of said at least one low-level subject.

38. (Original) A method according to claim 37 wherein said current database hierarchy further comprises:

at least one top-level leader assigned to each of said at least one top-level subject;

at least one mid-level leader assigned to each of said at least one mid-level subject; and

at least one low-level leader assigned to each of said at least one low-level subject.

39. (Original) A method according to claim 37 wherein said current database hierarchy further comprises:

at least one top-level authorization parameter and at

least one top-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one top-level subject;

at least one mid-level authorization parameter and at least one mid-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one mid-level subject; and

at least one low-level authorization parameter and at least one low-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one low-level subject.

40. (Original) A method according to claim 39 wherein said at least one low-level authorization parameter and said at least one low-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one low-level subject is inherited from said at least one mid-level subject related to said at least one low-level subject, and

further wherein said at least one mid-level authorization parameter and said at least one mid-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one mid-level subject is inherited from said at least one top-level subject related to said at least one mid-level subject, and

further wherein said at least one top-level authorization parameter and said at least one top-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one top-level subject is inherited from a web master.

41. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 35 wherein said determining dynamic interaction capability further comprises:

stratifying said portion of said information into at least one item type.

42. (Original) A method according to claim 41 wherein said at least one item type comprises a one of an idea, question, event, review, survey, newsletter, and action item.

43. (Original) A method according to claim 35 wherein each of said authorization parameters has at least one access level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least one access level provides more management control than a lower one of each of said at least one access level.

44. (Original) A method according to claim 35 wherein each of said interaction control parameters has at least one control level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least one control level provides more management control than a lower one of each of said at least one control level.

45. (Original) A method according to claim 35 wherein said presenting step further comprises:

presenting alerts to said user to an activity within the community,

wherein said activity is a one of a topic within said hierarchical structure, an item type within said hierarchical structure, a response from an individual user within the community, a response from any one of a member of a group of users within the community, a new posting from an individual user within the community, and a new posting from any one of a member of a group of users within the community.

46. (Original) A method according to claim 35 wherein said presenting step further comprises:

presenting alerts to said user to a message within the community,

wherein said message is sent to at least a one of a home page of said user, to an e-mail account of said user, to a voice mail box of said user, and to some other type of communications device of said user.

47. (Original) A method according to claim 35 wherein said outputting step further comprises:

outputting said initial input as an alert to a select group of users,

wherein said initial input is output to at least a one of a home page of said select group of users, an e-mail account of said select group of users, a voice mail box of said select group of users, and to some other type of communications device of said select group of users.

48. (Currently Amended) A method for enhancing communication within a community, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving in an application in an application platform a communication sent by a user from a first communication device, wherein said communication is associated with a user selected topic of a plurality of topics such that said user selected topic is selected by said user, and receiving a link to a resource associated with said communication;

(b) determining an access right said user has to information stored in a database of said application in said application platform;

(c) accessing a current database hierarchy, authorization parameters, and interaction control parameters for said application;

(d) granting access to said user, according to said access right of said user, to a portion of said information stored in said database, wherein said portion of said information is stored in association with said user selected topic;

(e) determining a dynamic interaction capability for said user with said portion of said information based on said database hierarchy, said authorization parameters, and said interaction control parameters;

(f) prioritizing an order of said portion of said information;

(g) presenting ~~said ordered~~ said portion of said information that is ordered to said user for review;

(h) receiving a selection input by said user an item type to respond to;

(i) accepting a response input from said user according to said dynamic interaction capability from said first communication device for storage in said database, wherein said response input comprises said communication and said link; and

(j) outputting said response input from said user to at least a second communication device.

49. (Original) A method according to claim 48 wherein said access right is based upon an access status, wherein said access status comprises a one of an inclusive access and an exclusive access, and

further wherein said inclusive access allows access to said information stored in said database except where excluded by said authorization parameters and said interaction control parameters, and

further wherein said exclusive access allows access to said information stored in said database only where explicitly assigned.

50. (Original) A method according to claim 48 wherein said current database hierarchy comprises:

a top-level hierarchy having at least one top-level subject;

at least one mid-level hierarchy, each of said at least one mid-level hierarchy having at least one mid-level subject related to at least one of said at least one top-level subject; and

a low-level hierarchy having at least one low-level subject related to at least one of said at least one mid-level subject,

wherein said response input becomes an item indexed to at least one of said at least one low-level subject.

51. (Original) A method according to claim 50 wherein said current database hierarchy further comprises:

at least one top-level leader assigned to each of said at least one top-level subject;

at least one mid-level leader assigned to each of said at least one mid-level subject; and

at least one low-level leader assigned to each of said at least one low-level subject.

52. (Original) A method according to claim 50 wherein said current database hierarchy further comprises:

at least one top-level authorization parameter and at least one top-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one top-level subject;

at least one mid-level authorization parameter and at least one mid-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one mid-level subject; and

at least one low-level authorization parameter and at least one low-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one low-level subject.

53. (Original) A method according to claim 52 wherein said at least one low-level authorization parameter and said at least one low-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one low-level subject is inherited from said at least one mid-level subject related to said at least one low-level subject, and

further wherein said at least one mid-level authorization parameter and said at least one mid-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one mid-level subject is inherited from said at least one top-level subject related to said at least one mid-level subject, and

764 further wherein said at least one top-level authorization parameter and said at least one top-level interaction control
766 parameter associated with each of said at least one top-level subject is inherited from a web master.
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54. (Original) A method according to claim 48 wherein
770 said determining dynamic interaction capability further comprises:
772 stratifying said portion of said information into at least one item type.
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55. (Original) A method according to claim 54 wherein
776 said at least one item type comprises a one of an idea, question, event, review, survey, newsletter, and action item.
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56. (Original) A method according to claim 48 wherein
780 each of said authorization parameters has at least one access level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least one
782 access level provides more management control than a lower one of each of said at least one access level.
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57. (Original) A method according to claim 48 wherein
786 each of said interaction control parameters has at least one control level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least
788 one control level provides more management control than a lower one of each of said at least one control level.
790 58. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication within a community, the method comprising the steps of:
792 (a) receiving in an application in an application platform a communication sent by a user from a first
794 communication device;

(b) determining an access right said user has to
796 information stored in a database of said application in said application platform;

(c) accessing a current database hierarchy, authorization parameters, and interaction control parameters for said application;

(d) granting access to said user, according to said access right of said user, to a portion of said information stored in said database;

(e) determining a dynamic interaction capability for said user with said portion of said information based on said database hierarchy, said authorization parameters, and said interaction control parameters;

(f) prioritizing an order of said portion of said information;

(g) receiving a request by said user to customize reviewable content by creating a digital binder;

(h) receiving at least one selection input from said user of a part of said portion of said information stored in said database to include in said digital binder;

(i) sorting said part of said portion of said information; and

(j) presenting for review to said user said digital binder having said sorted part of said portion of said information.

58. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication within a community, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving in an application in an application platform a communication sent by a user from a first communication device;

(b) determining an access right said user has to information stored in a database of said application in said application platform;

(c) accessing a current database hierarchy, authorization parameters, and interaction control parameters for said application;

(d) granting access to said user, according to said access right of said user, to a portion of said information stored in said database;

(e) determining a dynamic interaction capability for said user with said portion of said information based on said database hierarchy, said authorization parameters, and said interaction control parameters;

(f) prioritizing an order of said portion of said information;

(g) receiving a request by said user to customize reviewable content by creating a digital binder;

(h) receiving at least one selection input from said user of a part of said portion of said information stored in said database to include in said digital binder;

(i) sorting said part of said portion of said information; and

(j) presenting for review to said user said digital binder having said sorted part of said portion of said information.

59. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 58 wherein said access right is based upon an access status, wherein said access status comprises a one of an inclusive access and an exclusive access, and

further wherein said inclusive access allows access to said information stored in said database except where excluded by said authorization parameters and said interaction control parameters, and

further wherein said exclusive access allows access to said information stored in said database only where explicitly assigned.

60. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 58 wherein said current database hierarchy comprises:

a top-level hierarchy having at least one top-level subject;

at least one mid-level hierarchy, each of said at least one mid-level hierarchy having at least one mid-level subject related to at least one of said at least one top-level subject; and

a low-level hierarchy having at least one low-level subject related to at least one of said at least one mid-level subject,

wherein said part of said portion of said information in said digital binder remains linked in real time to said current database hierarchy.

61. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 60 wherein said current database hierarchy further comprises:

at least one top-level leader assigned to each of said at least one top-level subject;

at least one mid-level leader assigned to each of said at least one mid-level subject; and

at least one low-level leader assigned to each of said at least one low-level subject.

62. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 60 wherein said current database hierarchy further comprises:

at least one top-level authorization parameter and at least one top-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one top-level subject;

at least one mid-level authorization parameter and at least one mid-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one mid-level subject; and

at least one low-level authorization parameter and at least one low-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one low-level subject.

63. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 62 wherein said at least one low-level authorization parameter and said at least one low-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one low-level subject is inherited from said at least one mid-level subject related to said at least one low-level subject, and

further wherein said at least one mid-level authorization parameter and said at least one mid-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one mid-level subject is inherited from said at least one top-level subject related to said at least one mid-level subject, and

further wherein said at least one top-level authorization parameter and said at least one top-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one top-level subject is inherited from a web master.

64. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 58 wherein said determining dynamic interaction capability further comprises:

stratifying said portion of said information into at least one item type.

65. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 64 wherein said at least one item type comprises a one of an idea, question, event, review, survey, newsletter, and action item.

66. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 58 wherein each of said authorization parameters has at least one access level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least one access level provides more management control than a lower one of each of said at least one access level.

67. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 58 wherein each of said interaction control parameters has at least one control level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least one control level provides more management control than a lower one of each of said at least one control level.

68. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 58 further comprising:

outputting said digital binder to at least a second communication device over a communications channel.

69. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 58 further comprising:

updating said digital binder in real time with new content received in said application related to said at least one selection input.

70. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication within a community, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving in an application of an application platform a communication sent by a user from a first communication device;

(b) determining an access right said user has to information stored in a database of said application in said application platform;

(c) accessing a current database hierarchy, authorization parameters, and interaction control parameters for said application;

(d) granting access to said user, according to said access right of said user, to a portion of said information stored in said database;

(e) determining a dynamic interaction capability for said user with said portion of said information based on said database hierarchy, said authorization parameters, and said interaction control parameters;

(f) prioritizing an order of said portion of said information;

(g) presenting said ordered said portion of said information to said user for review;

(h) accepting selection input from said user of a portion of said ordered said portion of said information for output; and

(i) outputting said portion of said ordered said portion of said information to at least a second communication device.

71. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 70 wherein said outputting step further comprises the following steps:

consolidating said portion of said ordered said portion of said information;

sorting said portion of said ordered said portion of said information;

setting a level of content review for said portion of said ordered said portion of said information,

wherein said level of content review is a one of a full review, a summary only review, a title only review, and an all responses review; and

formatting said portion of said ordered said portion of said information in said level of content review.

72. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 70 wherein said access right is based upon an access status, wherein said access status comprises a one of an inclusive access and an exclusive access, and

further wherein said inclusive access allows access to said information stored in said database except where excluded by said authorization parameters and said interaction control parameters, and

further wherein said exclusive access allows access to said information stored in said database only where explicitly assigned.

73. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 70 wherein said current database hierarchy comprises:

a top-level hierarchy having at least one top-level subject;

at least one mid-level hierarchy, each of said at least one mid-level hierarchy having at least one mid-level subject related to at least one of said at least one top-level subject; and

a low-level hierarchy having at least one low-level subject related to at least one of said at least one mid-level subject.

74. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 73 wherein said current database hierarchy further comprises:

at least one top-level leader assigned to each of said at least one top-level subject;

at least one mid-level leader assigned to each of said at least one mid-level subject; and

at least one low-level leader assigned to each of said at least one low-level subject.

75. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 73 wherein said current database hierarchy further comprises:

at least one top-level authorization parameter and at least one top-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one top-level subject;

at least one mid-level authorization parameter and at least one mid-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one mid-level subject; and

at least one low-level authorization parameter and at least one low-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one low-level subject.

76. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 75 wherein said at least one low-level authorization parameter and said at least one low-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one low-level subject is inherited from said at least one mid-level subject related to said at least one low-level subject, and

further wherein said at least one mid-level authorization parameter and said at least one mid-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one mid-level subject is inherited from said at least one top-level subject related to said at least one mid-level subject, and

further wherein said at least one top-level authorization parameter and said at least one top-level interaction control parameter associated with each of said at least one top-level subject is inherited from a web master.

77. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 70 wherein said determining dynamic interaction capability further comprises:

stratifying said portion of said information into at least one item type.

78. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 77 wherein said at least one item type comprises a one of an idea, question, event, review, survey, newsletter, and action item.

79. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 70 wherein each of said authorization parameters has at least one access level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least one access level provides more management control than a lower one of each of said at least one access level.

80. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 70 wherein each of said interaction control parameters has at least one control level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least one control level provides more management control than a lower one of each of said at least one control level.

81. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community, the computer system comprising:

an application platform having an application for receiving a communication sent by a user from a first communication device, said application further comprising:

a database for storing information in said application;

an authorization interface module for determining an access right of said user to said stored information;

an inherited parameters responsibility module for setting a current database hierarchy, at least one authorization parameter, and at least one interaction control parameter in said application;

an authorization module for granting access to said user, according to said access right of said user, to a portion of said information stored in said database;

an interaction control module for determining a dynamic interaction capability for said user with said portion of said information based on said database hierarchy, said authorization parameters, and said interaction control parameters;

a content prioritizing interface for ordering said portion of said information;

a reviewing module for presenting said ordered portion of said information to said user for review;

an input module for accepting input from said communication from said user;

a thread synchronization module for synchronizing said input from said communication from said user with said information stored in said database; and

an output module for outputting a response from said user to at least a second communication device.

82. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein said application platform is a one of a centralized application platform architecture and a distributed application platform architecture,

wherein said distributed application platform architecture has a plurality of databases for storing distributively said plurality of communications.

83. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 82 further comprising:

for said distributed application platform architecture, a content synchronization module for exchanging and synchronizing content between said plurality of databases.

84. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 81 said application further comprises:

a content access interface for determining said current database hierarchy accessible by said user; and

further wherein said content prioritizing interface sorts and prioritizes said portion of said information.

85. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein said current database hierarchy comprises:

a top-level hierarchy having at least one top-level subject;

at least one mid-level hierarchy, each of said at least one mid-level hierarchy having at least one mid-level subject related to at least one of said at least one top-level subject; and

a low-level hierarchy having at least one low-level subject related to at least one of said at least one mid-level subject.

86. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 81 further comprising:

a recording module accessible by said first communication device,

wherein said recording module, after a user input is received in said first communication device from said user on a record option, queries said database causing said database to deliver to said first communication device said current database hierarchy, and

further wherein said recording module receives a user selection input from said user of a topic within said current database hierarchy with which to associate said input from said communication from said user from said first communication device, and

further wherein said recording module records and stores in said database said input from said communication sent from said first communication device.

87. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 86 wherein said recording module resides on said first communication device.

88. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 86 wherein said recording module resides on said application and is accessed over a communication channel by a user input on said record option selected from a tool bar displayed on said first communication device.

89. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein said inherited parameters responsibility module further comprises:

a hierarchy initiation module for creating a plurality of headings in a top-level hierarchy and for assigning at least one heading leader for each of said plurality of headings, and

for creating a plurality of categories in a mid-level hierarchy and for assigning at least one category leader for each of said plurality of categories, and

for creating a plurality of topics in a low-level hierarchy and for assigning at least one topic leader for each of said plurality of topics,

wherein each of said stored information becomes an item indexed to at least one of said plurality of topics.

90. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein said input module further comprises:

a resource attachment module for attaching a resource to said input from said communication from said user,

wherein said resource is a one of an internal database link, a document/file attachment, and an external Internet link.

91. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein said thread synchronization module further comprises:

an initial priority-based content placement module for determining a priority assignment for an initial communication so that when reviewed by said user accessing said application, said initial communication is reviewed in proper relationship to a plurality of communications related to said initial communication; and

a response priority-based content placement module for determining a priority assignment for said response from said user so that when reviewed by at least a second user accessing said application, said response is reviewed in proper relationship to a plurality of communications related to said response.

92. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein said reviewing module further comprises:

a filter module for setting at least one filter parameter; and

a consolidation reviewing interface for setting a level of content review,

wherein said set level of content review is a one of a full review, a summary only review, a title only review, and an all responses review.

93. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein said reviewing module further comprises:

a customized interactive reviewing module for creating a digital binder,

wherein said customized interactive reviewing module allows said user to aggregate in said digital binder a specific portion of said information most useful to said user.

94. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 93 wherein said input module and said thread synchronization module update said digital binder in real time with new content received in said application related to said specific portion of said information aggregated in said digital binder.

95. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein said application further comprises:

an alerts module for setting automatic alerts,

wherein said user can be automatically alerted to at least one activity or at least one message, wherein said at least one activity is a one of a topic within said database hierarchy, an item type within said database hierarchy, a response from an individual user within the community, a response from any one of a member of a group of users within the community, a new posting from an individual user within the community, and a new posting from any one of a member of a group of users within the community, and

further wherein said at least one message is sent to at least a one of a home page of at least one other user, an e-mail account of said at least one other user, a voice mail box of said at least one other user, and to some other type of communications device of said at least one other user.

96. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication within a community, the method comprising:

(a) establishing a hierarchical structure for organizing communications between a plurality of users within the community;

(b) distributing control through selection of inherited parameters of said hierarchical structure to at least one of said plurality of users, wherein said inherited parameters comprise parameters defining access by said plurality of users to said communications organized within said hierarchical structure;

(c) storing in said hierarchical structure at least a portion of said communications received from said plurality of users from at least one of a plurality of input devices in relation to at least one of a plurality of topics;

(d) prioritizing said at least a portion of said communications within said hierarchical structure;

(e) presenting to at least a one of said plurality of users through said at least one of a plurality of input devices a selected portion of said communications stored in said hierarchical structure, wherein said selected portion of said communications is related under a topic; and

(f) alerting said at least a one of said plurality of users to an activity related to said topic occurring within the community,

wherein said activity is a one of a topic within said hierarchical structure, an item type within said hierarchical structure, a response from an individual user within the community, a response from any one of a member of a group of users within the community, a new posting from an individual user within the community, and a new posting from any one of a member of a group of users within the community.

97. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 96 wherein step (f) is replaced by the following new step (f):

(f) alerting said at least a one of said plurality of users to a message within the community,

wherein said message is sent to at least a one of a home page of said at least one of said plurality of users, to an e-mail account of said at least one of said plurality of users, to a voice mail box of said at least one of said plurality of users, and to some other type of communications device of said at least one of said plurality of users.

98. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 96 wherein step (f) is replaced by the following new step (f):

(f) alerting others within the community to an activity or a message of said at least a one of said plurality of users,

wherein said activity is a one of a topic within said hierarchical structure, an item type within said hierarchical structure, a response from said at least one of said plurality of users, a new posting from said at least one of said plurality of users, and

further wherein said message is sent to at least a one of a home page of said others within the community, to an e-mail account of said others within the community, to a voice mail box of said others within the community, and to some other type of communications device of said others within the community.

99. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 96 wherein step (f) is replaced by the following new step (f) and further comprising the steps (g) through (i):

(f) setting a deadline for a rapid feedback evaluation of at least one item type;

(g) selecting a type of response for said rapid feedback evaluation of said at least one item type;

(h) selecting a group of users to respond to said rapid feedback evaluation of said at least one item type;

(i) sending said at least one item type and said selected type of response to said selected group of users; and

(j) receiving a plurality of said selected type of response from said selected group of users to said at least one item type.

100. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication within a community according to claim 99 wherein said at least one item type is a one of an idea, question, event, review, survey, newsletter, and action item.